

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 02745 061214 Z

14

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ADP-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OMB-01 RSR-01 /127 W
----- 128057

R 060957 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8004

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2745

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, XF

SUBJECT: PRC ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA

1. IN GENERAL DISCUSSION APR 4 FIRST AFRICAN DIVISION DIRECTOR SHALEV OF MFA COMMENTED TO EMBOFF THAT PEKING' S INTEREST IN AFRICA IS GROWING. HE THOUGHT RECENT ISRAELI PRESS SPECULATION THIS SUBJECT MAY HAVE BEEN PROMPTED BY MOBUTU' S TRIP TO PEKING. IN THIS CONNECTION SHALEV SAID ISRAELIS HAVE LEARNED IN ZAIRE THAT LARGE CONTINGENT OF CHINESE AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS WHO ARRIVED IN ZAIRE WITHIN A FEW WEEKS FOLLOWING MOBUTU VISIT TO PEKING INCLUDED AT LEAST ONE PERSON FLUENT IN EACH ZAIREAN DIALECT. THIS OBVIOUSLY REFLECTED LONG- RANGE CAREFUL PREPARATION.

2. SHALEV SAID ISRAEL HAS NO DIRECT EVIDENCE OF CONCENTRATED NEW CAMPAIGN BY CHINESE IN AFRICA AGAINST ISRAELI PRESENCE THERE, ALTHOUGH IT WELL KNOWN PEKING IS CONSISTENTLY HOSTILE TO ISRAEL. ISRAELI PRESS ASSERTIONS THAT CHINESE ARE WORKING ACTIVELY AGAINST ISRAEL IN AFRICA THUS WERE SPECULATIVE. NEVERTHELESS, PRC SUPPORT FOR AFRICAN REGIMES, E. G. FOR MOBUTU, DID HAVE INDIRECT EFFECT ON ISRAELI RELATIONS WITH AFRICAN STATES, IN THAT ENLARGED CHINESE BACKING TENDED TO
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PAGE 02 TEL AV 02745 061214 Z

ENCOURAGE AFRICAN LEADERS TO TREAT THEIR OTHER OUTSIDE
SUPPORTERS SUCH AS ISRAEL CAVALIERLY.
ZURHELLEN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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KINSHASA
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